

PRESS RELEASE

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IOWA COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS FOR MANUFACTURING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Roger Smith, 38, Hollandale, Wis., was sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 30 years of imprisonment for manufacturing child pornography. Pursuant to federal law, Smith's sentence will be served without the possibility of parole.

Smith has remained in custody since February 28, 2008, when special agents from the Wisconsin Department of Justice, with members of the Iowa County Sheriff's Department, executed a search warrant at Smith's Town of Hollandale home for evidence related to an alleged attempted exposure of a child to sexual activity over the Internet. During the search, officers found a digital camera. A search of the camera revealed numerous sexually explicit images of children.

Smith's co-defendant, Carrie Wheaton, 30, was also present at Smith's home and was taken into custody. Wheaton also pleaded guilty to manufacturing child pornography and will be sentenced at 1:00 p.m. on September 23, 2008.

United States Attorney Peterson stated that the charges followed an investigation conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice - Division of Criminal Investigation and the Iowa County Sheriff's Department. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

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